



Dr. Oswald Weber with talk regarding Cultural and Genetic Heritage of Arubans



The Hilton Aruba Makes a Positive Environmental Impact



Louise Rasmijn: the value of an exceptional cashier



ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

MONDAY

Angela Flores
Violinist
6:30pm-8:30pm

FRIDAY

Ricky Thomas
Guitarist
7:00pm-9:00pm

TUESDAY

Jean Paul
Saxophonist
6:30pm-8:30pm

SATURDAY

Angela Flores
Violinist
6:30pm-8:30pm

WEDNESDAY

Eddie Kroon
Singer
6:30pm-8:30pm

KARAOKE
Happy Hour
9:00pm-11:00pm

THURSDAY

Marrybell Maduro
Singer
6:30pm-8:30pm

SUNDAY

Marrybell Maduro
Singer
6:30pm-8:30pm

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US storm survivors: We need money faster, less red tape



In this Oct. 31, 2012 photo, Peter Green surveys the wreckage of an oceanfront home in Bay Head N.J. two days after Superstorm Sandy hit.

(AP Photo/Wayne Parry)

By Wayne Parry
Associated Press

MIDDLETOWN, N.J. (AP) — Survivors of storms that

pounded several U.S. states say the nation's disaster aid

system is broken and that they want reforms to get money into victims' hands faster, with less red tape.

On the 10th anniversary of Superstorm Sandy's landfall at the Jersey Shore, devastating communities throughout the northeast, survivors gathered Saturday with others who went through hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Maria and Ida along with victim advocacy groups from New Jersey, Florida, Texas, Louisiana and Puerto Rico.

Robert Lukasiewicz said Sandy sounded like "a hundred freight trains" as it roared past his Atlantic City, New Jersey, home on Oct. 29, 2012.

Contractor fraud set his recovery efforts back and work by a second contractor stalled because of a lack of funds, Lukasiewicz said. After waiting two years for a government aid program, he said he finally found out he needed to have flood insurance first the price of which had by then soared to unaffordable levels.

"If all these things had been steps instead of missteps, I could have been home years ago," he said. "You've got different systems that are all butting heads and blaming the other side, when the homeowners and families that all of this was designed for are suffering."

The survivors and their advocates listed five reforms they say are needed to help future storm victims avoid the type of delays, runarounds and financial desperation they experienced: getting money into people's hands more quickly; ensuring that disaster recovery systems are applied equitably; making flood insurance work for storm victims instead of against them; including future storm resiliency into disaster recovery efforts; and ensuring that disaster recovery is systematic, not piecemeal.

Specific recommendations call for a single point of application for the numerous local, state and federal assistance programs; imposing a smaller cap on annual flood insurance premium rate increases; giving storm victims direct payments and health insurance for a period after the storm; restructuring loan repayment or aid overpayment "clawbacks" to take into account a storm survivor's ability to pay; and paying 100% of mitigation costs upfront for low-income storm victims instead of reimbursing them after they pay for the work.

Joe Mangino, whose Jersey Shore home was damaged by Sandy, co-founded the New Jersey Organizing Project, which brought storm survivors together on Saturday. "Surviving the actual storm was the easy part," he said. "There was a disaster after the disaster."

For Ute Schaefer of Houston, it was the snakes that flowed into her home with flood waters that trapped her inside for four days, banging on windows for help until a passing boat rescued her and dumped her on the shoulder of a highway.



"All the shelters were full," she said. "I was on my own." She eventually sought help from two local nonprofits that were already out of money. She went to the county, which referred her to the city, which referred her back to the same nonprofits.

"I was grasping for anything, but there was nothing there," she said.


Shanna Hebert, a single mother from Houma, Louisiana, is about to lose her house that was left unlivable by Hurricane Ida last year. Her one-year mortgage forbearance agreement is ending, and the company wants \$17,000 by next week or it will foreclose. She said her insurance company declared bankruptcy, forcing her to buy a trailer with her own money.

Millie Santiago fled Canóvanas, Puerto Rico, for Florida after Hurricane Maria in 2017, only to encounter multiple impediments to emergency aid, including housing.


"They were asking two to three times the normal rent, up front," she said. "A disaster should not be an opportunity for corporations and contractors to get rich off the suffering of survivors." □




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Obama, campaigning in Georgia, warns of threats to democracy

By Bill Barrow

Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Ga. (AP)

— Former President Barack Obama returned to the campaign trail Friday in Georgia, using his first stop on a multi-state tour to frame the 2022 midterm elections as a referendum on democracy and to urge voters not to see Republicans as an answer to their economic woes.

It was a delicate balance, as the former president acknowledged the pain of inflation and tried to explain why President Joe Biden and Democrats shouldn't take all the blame as they face the prospects of losing narrow majorities in the House and Senate when votes are tallied Nov. 8. But Obama argued that Republicans who are intent on making it harder for people to vote and like former President Donald Trump are willing to ignore the results, can't be trusted to care about Americans' wallets either. With Biden's approval ratings in the low 40s, Democrats hope Obama's emergence in the closing weeks of the



Former President Barack Obama, center, stands with Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams and candidate for U.S. Senate, Sen. Raphael Warnock D-Ga., during a campaign rally Friday, Oct. 28, 2022, in College Park, Ga. (AP Photo/John Bazemore)

campaign boosts the party's slate in a tough national environment. He shared the stage Friday with Sen. Raphael Warnock, who faces a tough reelection fight from Republican Herschel Walker, and Stacey Abrams, who is trying to unseat Republican Gov. Brian Kemp, who defeated her

narrowly four years ago. For Obama personally, the campaign blitz is an opportunity to do something he was unable to do in two midterms during his presidency: help Democrats succeed in national midterms when they already hold the White House. For his party, it's an opportu-

nity to leverage Obama's rebound in popularity since his last midterm defeats in 2014. Their hope is that the former president can sell arguments that Biden, his former vice president, has struggled to land. "Obama occupies a rare place in our politics today," said David Axelrod, who

helped shape Obama's campaigns from his days in the Illinois state Senate through two presidential elections. "He obviously has great appeal to Democrats. But he's also well-liked by independent voters."

Obama tried to show off that reach Friday. The first Black president drew a hero's welcome from a majority Black audience, and he offered plenty of applause lines for Democrats. But he saved plenty of his argument, especially on the economy, for moderates, independents and casual voters, including a defense of Biden, who Obama said is "fighting for you every day."

He called inflation "a legacy of the pandemic," the resulting supply chain disruption and the Ukraine war's effects on global oil markets a sweeping retort to Republican attempts to cast sole blame on Democrats' spending bills. "What is their answer? ... They want to give the rich tax cuts," Obama said of the GOP. "That's their answer to everything. □"

Permitless carry laws raise new dilemmas for police officers

By REBECCA REYNOLDS

Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) —

Police saw Carmon Tussey walking briskly toward a crowded Louisville bar carrying a semi-automatic weapon.

With people running away, officers moved in, service weapons drawn. They put the 26-year-old in handcuffs and confiscated his gun. Tussey was later charged with terroristic threatening, wanton endangerment and disorderly conduct, prosecutors said, and could face up to 20 years in prison.

His lawyer says he "was engaged in perfectly legal behavior" in the incident last year, raising a relatively new legal argument in the United States that now stands before the courts

to settle. That's because Kentucky made it legal in 2019 to carry a gun in public without a permit, joining what is now a majority of states with similar laws. Louisville prosecutors say it was more than just the gun

that led police to detain Tussey. The type of weapon, how he carried it, and where he was headed also mattered. A witness also told officers that Tussey was returning to the bar after a verbal altercation.

After he was detained, Tussey told police he "was returning to shoot" the people he fought with, according to the arrest citation. Those comments came later. Simms argued in court that he had given police no legal reason to take him into custody when they did.

The judge hasn't been persuaded by that argument so far, saying in a preliminary ruling on evidence that police had other reasons to arrest Tussey at the time. But Simms says he thinks he can convince a jury that Tussey didn't commit any crimes, in part because of Kentucky's new law. His next hearing is Nov. 2. Advocates say permitless carry makes people safer. Opponents say it makes it more dangerous for ordi-

nary people, and for police officers.

Gun violence is up nationwide. There have been 35,000 deaths in the U.S. so far this year, following 45,000 deaths in 2020 and the same in 2021. About 79% of the killings in 2020 involved a firearm, the highest percentage since at least 1968.

Earlier this year, Republican Gov. Eric Holcomb signed an Indiana law removing the permit requirement for carrying a handgun in public even though Indiana's state police superintendent had weighed in against it. The new law took effect July 1.

Under the new law, Galaviz said, officers can't immediately grab a gun or ask to see a permit when they pull someone over. □



An attendee at a gun rights rally open-carries his gun in a holster that reads "We the People," from the Preamble to the United States Constitution on Jan. 18, 2019, at the Capitol in Olympia, Wash. (AP Photo/Ted S. Warren, File)

Lying officers unpunished in 2018 inmate death

By John O'Connor

Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (AP) —

Three former Illinois prison guards face life behind bars after the 2018 fatal beating of a 65-year-old inmate in a case marked by the unpunished lies of other correctional officers who continue to get pay raises, records obtained by The Associated Press and court documents show.

Juries convicted Department of Corrections Officer Alex Banta in April and Lt. Todd Sheffler in August of federal civil rights violations owing largely to the cooperation of the third, Sgt. Willie Hedden. Hedden hopes for a reduced sentence even though he admitted lying about his involvement until entering a guilty plea 18 months ago.

But Hedden's account of what happened to Western Illinois Correctional Center inmate Larry Earvin on May 17, 2018, is not unique. Similar testimony was offered by six other correctional officers who still work at the lockup in Mount Sterling, 249 miles (400 kilometers) southwest of Chicago.



Former Illinois Correctional Lt. Todd Sheffler returns to federal court in Springfield, Ill., on April 21, 2022. (AP Photo/John O'Connor, File)

Like Hedden, all admitted under oath that initially, they lied to authorities investigating Earvin's death, including to the Illinois State Police and the FBI. They covered up the brutal beatings that took place and led to Earvin's death six weeks later from blunt-force trauma to the chest and abdomen, according

to an autopsy reports. Documents obtained by The AP under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act indicate that none of the guards has been punished for the coverup. Despite admitting their indiscretions, Lts. Matthew Lindsey and Blake Haubrich, Sgts. Derek Hasten, Brett Hendricks and Shawn Volk and

Officer Richard Waterstraat have flourished three have been promoted, one has been on paid leave, and on average, they've seen salary hikes of nearly 30% and increases in pension benefits. Even if fired from their jobs now, they'd keep the extra money from salary hikes tied to promotions or con-

tractual agreement and the accompanying boosts in retirement benefits.

Phone numbers associated with the officers are not connected, or messages weren't returned. None has responded to a request through the Corrections Department to speak to them. Corrections spokeswoman Naomi Puzello said an internal review of the Earvin incident has been postponed until the federal probe is complete. She promised that Corrections will take "all appropriate steps" to punish misconduct. But it has no authority "to take past wages from an employee or impair a pension," she said.

Banta and Sheffler are in federal custody, awaiting sentencing Banta on Tuesday and Sheffler on Jan. 6. Hedden's sentencing has not been scheduled. Hedden testified in April that he ascribed to "the culture at Western" which called for roughing up troublemakers while escorting them to the segregation unit used to discipline inmates who break rules or threaten prison safety. □

Black church tradition survives Georgia's voting changes

By Sudhin Thanawala and Gary Fields

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) —

Black church leaders in Georgia organized rallies Sunday in a push to get their congregants to vote a long-standing tradition known as "souls to the polls" that is taking on greater meaning this year amid new obstacles to casting a ballot in the midterm elections.

State lawmakers nearly did away with Sunday voting under a bill signed into law last year. The Republican-sponsored legislation followed former President Donald Trump's false claims that voter fraud cost him reelection in 2020.

Though lawmakers backed off the Sunday voting ban, the bill shortened the time to request a mail ballot, rolled back the COVID-19

pandemic-driven expansion of ballot drop boxes, reduced early voting before runoff elections and prohibited groups from handing out food and wa-

ter to voters in line. Republicans said Georgia's new law was necessary to restore confidence in the state's election system. Civil rights advocates saw

it as an attack on Black voters, who helped Democrats win the presidential contest in Georgia in 2020 for the first time since 1992 and later take the state's two U.S. Senate seats. They are pushing back by redoubling efforts to turn out Black voters.

Sunday's scheduled "souls to the polls" events include a caravan organized by church leaders and civil rights groups to take congregants from Rainbow Park Baptist Church in the Atlanta area to a mall where they can vote early. U.S. Sen. Raphael Warnock, the pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, also planned to hold a rally to get church members to vote on the last Sunday of the early voting period.

"Souls to the polls" reflects the Black church's central

role in the fight for justice and freedom in the U.S., said W. Franklyn Richardson, chairman of the board of trustees of the Conference of National Black Churches.

Richardson said efforts like it are particularly critical this election cycle.

"It's the cumulative accomplishment of our people that is being challenged and threatened that makes this such an urgent election," he said.

The idea for "souls to the polls" goes back to the civil rights movement.

The Rev. George Lee, a Black Mississippi entrepreneur, was assassinated by white supremacists in 1955 after he helped nearly 100 Black residents register to vote in the town of Belzoni. □



Pastor Carl Johnson from the 93rd Street Community Baptist Church prays with a large group of people before the march during the Souls to the Polls on the last day of early voting as part of one of many events prior to the general elections outside the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center on Sunday, Nov. 1, 2020, in Miami

(David Santiago/Miami Herald via AP)

S. Korea in shock, grief as 153 die in Halloween crowd surge

By Kim Tong-Hyung and
Hyung-Jin Kim

Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) —

Concerned relatives raced to hospitals in search of their loved ones Sunday as South Korea mourned the deaths of more than 150 people, mostly in their 20s and 30s, who got trapped and crushed after a huge Halloween party crowd surged into a narrow alley in a nightlife district in Seoul. Witnesses said the crowd surge Saturday night in the Itaewon area caused “a hell-like” chaos as people fell on each other “like dominoes.” Some people were bleeding from their noses and mouths while being given CPR, witnesses said, while others clad in Halloween costumes continued to sing and dance nearby, possibly without knowing the severity of the situation.

“I still can’t believe what has happened. It was like a hell,” said Kim Mi Sung, an official at a nonprofit organization that promotes tourism in Itaewon.

Kim said she performed CPR on 10 people who were unconscious and nine of them were declared dead on the spot. Kim said the 10 were mostly women wearing witch outfits and other Halloween costumes. As of Sunday evening, officials put the death toll at 153 and the number of injured people at 133. The Ministry of the Interior and Safety said the death count could further rise as 37 of the injured people were in serious conditions. Ken Fallas, a Costa Rican architect who went Itaewon with expat friends, used his smartphone to film video showing unconscious people being carried out from the alley as others shouted for help. He said the loud music made things more chaotic.

“When we just started to move forward, there was no way to go back,” Fallas said. “We didn’t hear anything because the music was really loud. Now, I think that was one of the main



Rescue workers and firefighters try to help injured people near the scene of a crowd surge in Seoul, South Korea, Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022.

(AP Photo/Lee Jin-man)

things that made this so complicated.”

Ninety-seven of the dead were women and 56 were men. More than 80% of the dead are in their 20s and 30s, but at least four were teenagers. At least 20 of the dead are foreigners from China, Russia, Iran and elsewhere. There is one American among the dead, the Interior Ministry said in a release.

An estimated 100,000 people had gathered in Itaewon for the country’s biggest outdoor Halloween festivities since the pandemic began. The South Korean government had eased COVID-19 restrictions in recent months.

Witnesses said the streets were so densely clogged with people and slow-moving vehicles that it was practically impossible for emergency workers and ambulances to reach the alley near Hamilton Hotel swiftly.

The bodies of the dead were being kept at 42 hospitals in Seoul and nearby Gyeonggi province, according to Seoul City, which said it will instruct crematories to burn more bodies per day as part of plans to support funeral proceedings.

Around 100 businesses in the Hamilton Hotel area have agreed to shut down

their shops through Monday to reduce the number of partygoers who would come to the streets through Halloween day.

While Halloween isn’t a traditional holiday in South Korea where children rarely go trick-or-treating it’s still a major attraction for young adults, and costume parties at bars and clubs have become hugely popular in recent years.

Itaewon, near where the former headquarters of U.S. military forces in South Korea operated for decades before moving out of the capital in 2018, is an expat-friendly district known for its trendy bars, clubs and restaurants. It’s the city’s marquee Halloween destination. South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol declared a one-week national mourning period on Sunday and ordered flags at government buildings and public offices to fly at half-staff. During a televised speech, Yoon said supporting the families of the victims, including their funeral preparations, and the treatment of the injured would be a top priority for his government.

He also called for officials to thoroughly investigate the cause of the accident and review the safety of other large cultural and entertainment events to en-

sure they proceed safely.

“This is really devastating. The tragedy and disaster that need not have happened took place in the heart of Seoul amid Halloween (celebrations),” Yoon said during the speech. “I feel heavy hearted and cannot contain my sadness as a president responsible for the people’s lives and safety.”

After the speech, Yoon visited the Itaewon alley where the disaster occurred. Local TV footage showed Yoon inspecting the alley filled with trash and being briefed by emergency officials.

It was not immediately clear what led the crowd to surge into the narrow, downhill alley. One survivor said many people fell and toppled one another “like dominoes” after they were pushed by others.

The survivor, surnamed Kim, said they were trapped for about an hour and a half before being rescued, as some people shouted “Help me!” and others were short of breath, according to the Seoul-based Hankyoreh newspaper.

Choi Seong-beom, chief of Seoul’s Yongsan fire department, said that bodies were being sent to hospitals or a gym, where bereaved family members could identify them. □

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Global food concerns rise as Russia halts Ukraine grain deal

By Sam Mednick

Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — U.S.

President Joe Biden has warned that global hunger could increase because of Russia's suspension of a U.N.-brokered deal to allow safe passage for ships carrying Ukrainian grain.

"It's really outrageous," said Biden speaking in Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday. "There's no merit to what they're doing. The U.N. negotiated that deal and that should be the end of it." Biden spoke hours after Russia announced it would immediately halt participation in the agreement, alleging that Ukraine staged a drone attack Saturday against Russia's Black Sea Fleet ships off the coast of occupied Crimea. Ukraine has denied the attack, saying that Russia mishandled its own weapons. The grain initiative has allowed more than 9 million tons of grain in 397 ships to safely leave Ukrainian ports since it was signed in July, and the U.N. chief on Friday urged Russia and Ukraine to renew the deal when it expires in late November. The grain agreement has succeeded in bringing down global food prices, which have fallen about 15% from their peak



The ship Navi-Star sits full of grain since Russia's invasion of Ukraine began five months ago as it waits to sail from the Odesa Sea Port, in Odesa, Ukraine, July 29, 2022

(AP Photo/David Goldman, File)

in March, according to the United Nations. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy called the decision predictable and said Russia has been deliberately aggravating the food crisis since September. Currently, some 176 ships loaded with grain are being prevented from sailing from Ukraine's ports, he said.

"This is food for more than 7 million consumers. ... Why is it that a handful of people somewhere in the Kremlin can decide whether there

will be food on the tables of people in Egypt or Bangladesh?" he said Saturday in his nightly address to the nation.

Other Ukrainian officials were more vehement, with one saying that Russia has started a real-life "hunger games" for the world's poor. A ship with 40,000 tons of grains bound for Ethiopia under the United Nations aid program could not leave Ukraine on Sunday as a result of Russia's suspension of the deal, said Olek-

sandr Kubrakov, Ukraine's minister of infrastructure.

Russia's action is facing international condemnation. European Union foreign policy chief Josep Borrell urged Russia to reverse its decision in a tweet Sunday. Stephane Dujarric, spokesman for the U.N. secretary general, said the world body is in touch with Russian authorities about the decision and that it's vital all parties refrain from any actions that would impede the grain initiative.

Russia had been setting conditions to withdraw from the deal for some time, the Institute for the Study of War, a Washington think tank said. The institute said even if Ukraine did order an attack Saturday on Russia's Black Sea Fleet, that would have been proportionate to Russia's intense bombing campaign against Ukrainian civilian targets and energy infrastructure in recent weeks.

Earlier this month, Moscow intensified its missile and drone strikes on Ukraine's power stations, waterworks and other key infrastructure, damaging 40% of Ukraine's electric system and forcing the government to implement rolling blackouts. Kyiv's mayor said the Ukrainian capital's power system was operating in "emergency mode." The Kremlin said it was ready for peace talks but stressed that they should be held with Washington, which Russia views as Kyiv's "mastermind," Dmitry Peskov, a Kremlin spokesman told Russian state television on Sunday.

"Obviously, the deciding vote belongs to Washington ... It is impossible to talk about something, for example, with Kyiv," he said. □

UK politicians demand probe into Liz Truss phone hack claim

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — The British government insisted Sunday it has robust cyberse-



Britain's Foreign Secretary Liz Truss leaves a Cabinet meeting at 10 Downing Street in London, Tuesday, April 19, 2022. (AP Photo/Alastair Grant, File)

curity for government officials, after a newspaper reported that former Prime Minister Liz Truss' phone was

hacked while she was U.K. foreign minister.

The Mail on Sunday said that the hack was discovered when Truss was running to become Conservative Party leader and prime minister in the summer. It said the security breach was kept secret by then-Prime Minister Boris Johnson and the head of the civil service. The newspaper, citing unnamed sources, said Russian spies were suspected of the hack. It said the hackers gained access to sensitive information, including discussions about the Ukraine war with foreign officials, as well as private conversations between Truss and a political

ally, former Treasury chief Kwasi Kwarteng.

The U.K. government spokesperson declined to comment on security arrangements, but said it had "robust systems in place to protect against cyber threats," including regular security briefings for ministers.

Opposition parties demanded an independent investigation into the hack, and into the leak of the information to a newspaper. "Was Liz Truss's phone hacked by Russia, was there a news blackout and if so why?" said Liberal Democrat foreign affairs spokesperson Layla Moran. "If it turns out this informa-

tion was withheld from the public to protect Liz Truss' leadership bid, that would be unforgivable."

Labour Party law-and-order spokesperson Yvette Cooper said "the story raises issues around cybersecurity."

"It's why cybersecurity has to be taken so seriously by everyone across government, the role of hostile states," she told Sky News. "But also the allegations about whether a Cabinet minister has been using a personal phone for serious government business, and serious questions about why this information or this story has been leaked or briefed right now." □



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Dr. Oswald Wever with talk regarding Cultural and Genetic Heritage of Arubans



ORANJESTAD – With the goal of letting the voice of the Amerindians be heard, Dr. Oswald Wever carried out research on the culture and heritage of the Amerindian of the people of Aruba. In his book, “Cultural & Genetic Heritage of Arubans”, Dr. Wever proves the close bonds between Aruba and the Hispanic-Caribbean countries, particularly between Aruba and Paragana.

Already in 2013, Dr. Wever carried out a genetic investigation on the heritage of the people of Aruba, called “Genetic Structure of the Aruban Population, three origins”, which proved that 54 percent of people of Aruba are of Amerindian heritage. Dr. Wever continued his

investigation on the origins of the Aruban people and our customs, and the results were presented in the book that was launched. In the book, Dr. Wever proved the special relationship that Aruba has with Paragana regarding the family ties, customs, food, music, etc. and this is related to the genetic Amerindian origins shared by our peoples.

Minister of Culture, Xiomara Maduro thanked Dr. Wever for carrying out the research on the origins of the people of Aruba. These investigations surely aroused curiosity and accentuate the necessity to investigate other aspects of our history. The voice of the Amerindian must continue being heard. □



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by Urvin Croes

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For the Monday Night Sushi Night they created an innovative roll to provide our guests with a one-of-a-kind Sushi option to enjoy in our scenic environment. Ideal for both those new to sushi or real connoisseurs, The Bulldog Booze Roll takes the iconic Amsterdam vibe and pairs it with Japanese tradition.

Curious about our Menu?

You can find our Sushi-Menu on the Facebook or Instagram page of @TheBulldogAruba.

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35 Years of Excellence at Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort

Bucuti's success is Aruba's success

EAGLE BEACH, Aruba – October 31, 2022— Bucuti & Tara Beach Resort is celebrating its 35th anniversary. What started as a hotelier's dream almost four decades ago, has become one of the Top 25 Hotels in the World according to TripAdvisor, Condé Nast Traveler, Travel + Leisure, and Forbes Magazine. Simultaneously, it became the first certified Carbon-Neutral hotel in the Caribbean.

Tourism, a natural choice for Aruba

In 1985, Aruba's Lago oil refinery shuttered, coveted jobs were lost, and the island's leaders sought new opportunities for the community to prosper. Aruba's budding tourism industry was tested and became the focus of growth for the government. Hotelier Ewald Biemans, already a proven leader in the island's tourism sector, answered the call to invest. With Biemans' commitment to Aruba, the Bucuti Beach Hotel was born.

Triumph despite an ominous start

Black Monday, Oct. 19, 1987, was the day the stock market crashed; however, for Bucuti Beach Resort, that day marked its grand opening – 11 days ahead of schedule. From the day it opened, prosperity prevailed for this special Eagle Beach hotel. Inspired by the friendly, bright people making up the island community, Biemans incorporated the best of Aruba into Bucuti. He has cared for the local community and its natural beauty as much as for the resort's guests.

Innovation, adaption and the best workforce Bucuti & Tara's success has long been fueled by Biemans' community involvement and continual reinvestment in the resort and staff. Being a pioneer and an early adopter, while maintaining the resort's core identity, has been key to thriving in the global hospitality environment. The implementation of advanced technologies and innovations to create an efficient, desirable, and well-organized workplace has been ongoing. Beyond training staff to position them as world-class, the resort cares for Bucuti Associates just as it does guests. During the pandemic, it maintained 100% of its workforce, provided educational opportunities, safe working conditions, healthy food, and even a savings and loans program that also provides "green loans".

"We are in the nature business"

As Biemans has long said, "We are not in the tourism business, we are in the nature business. People come from all over the world to experience the natural beauty of Aruba." Protecting Aruba's nature has been paramount to Biemans' and Bucuti & Tara's core values.

While Bucuti's success in providing an exceptional vacation experience took off, the framework for sustainability soon followed. Biemans was compelled to protect the treasure that is Aruba, and Bucuti & Tara Beach Hotel. He led the effort so the property methodically began earning the world's top eco-certifications of Green Globe, Travelife Gold, ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and LEED Gold v4.1. Ultimately, in Aug. 2018, Bucuti & Tara became the Caribbean's first certified Carbon-Neutral hotel. In 2020, the United Nations gave Bucuti & Tara a prestigious Global UN Climate Action Award and said that the resort's sustainability program



was "highly replicable and scalable" for hotels and businesses all over the world to follow. For Biemans', this starts at home, and local students and the government have long been invited to see the resort's program in person and take their teachings to develop in their own special part of Aruba.

Local success, global stage

International media recognition has flowed with every award, accolade, and certification throughout the years. This has and continues to keep Aruba in the spotlight, highlighting its beauty, culture, people, and quality of experience as a premier Caribbean destination.

A lifetime of 'firsts'

For 35 years, Bucuti & Tara looked forward, breaking through the shackles of normalcy to incorporate new and more efficient ways to operate. No stranger to defying the norm, one thing Bucuti & Tara will not defy is its community. Having launched beach clean-ups more than 30 years ago, the property still maintains this monthly commitment shared by guests and staff. An early adopter of technology, Bucuti & Tara had the first webcams and was called upon by Setar for Wifi testing as it worked to establish its system.

As Aruba's pet overpopulation continued to grow, the property launched Stimami Sterilisami, a nonprofit organization to subsidize spay and neutering of local dogs and cats. Since 2016, as of Aug. 2022, more than 30,000 pets have been spayed. Loyal and continual support of Turtugaruba, the Donkey Sanctuary and Pack for a Purpose (benefiting Imeldahof Children's Home) have been a priority. The resort's sister company, Tara Eco Supplies, was the first wholesaler to begin importing and selling eco-friendly hospitality products and supplies to the hotel and to the island as a whole.

That the future may learn from the past

As Bucuti & Tara eyes the years to come, it is focused on continuing to elevate its high-quality offerings and relationships to benefit Aruba. The hotel property's next major goal is to achieve carbon negativity in 2023. Bucuti & Tara continues to freely share its initiatives to help others start their own sustainability journey. Whether residents or other business people, students at the University of Aruba or grade school children in Aruba's EcoKids learning sustainability and entrepreneurship, Bucuti & Tara continues its pledge to invest in Aruba.

Coming soon: A fitting 35-year anniversary celebration rooted in the tradition of community service

Biemans and lifelong friend and colleague Grete Marie (Ree) Case recently donated a large portion of over 12 hectares (30 acres) of land, with Bucuti and Tara sponsoring the remainder to the nature preservation foundation they founded in Noord. Next month, on a date to be determined, a celebratory 35 trees will be planted to line a walking/running trail on this newly protected tract for the community to enjoy.

To learn more, visit Bucuti.com.



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The Hilton Aruba Makes a Positive Environmental Impact



Palm Beach. – The Hilton Aruba Caribbean Resort & Casino is committed to sustainable practices, actively contributing to reducing its consumption of natural resources as well as taking action towards climate

change, reducing waste on Aruba.

As part of Hilton's annual volunteer week "Travel with purpose," the Blue Energy Committee participated in a beach cleanup on the is-

land's southeast coast in an area called Rincon beach, an area that collects driftwood among other wastes, including microplastics. The team collected over 20 garbage bags filled with waste, making the beach much cleaner than before. Travel with Purpose is Hilton's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) strategy to drive responsible travel and tourism globally. Through Travel with Purpose, Hilton seeks to create a positive environmental and social impact across operations, supply chains, and communities.

The beach cleanup included a group of 30, in-



cluding Hilton Aruba Team Members and De Palm Tours personnel, Hospitality & Tourism students from the University of Aruba, faculty members, and exchange students from Belgium and Germany.

The Blue Energy committee would like to thank all volunteers for their time, effort & support towards this initiative to help maintain our One Happy Island's beaches clean! □

Another Treasure of Aruba's Beaches: Sea Glass!

NOORD - It is hard to imagine this happening today, but years ago people dumped all kinds of refuse straight into the ocean, including old cars, and their household garbage, which of course included lots of glass. Over the next 30 years the pounding waves cleaned the beach, by breaking down everything but glass and pottery. The pounding waves washed the trash up and down, back and forth. Tons of polished, broken glass pieces

were created by the pounding surf. These smoothened, colored glass particles then settled along the sea shore in millions, and that is why you can find these beautiful and colorful pieces on the north shore beaches of Aruba.

Especially on the strip on white sand between the famous Natural Bridge" and the huge red anchor close to "Grapefield" beach you will be able to find your own pieces of sea glass. The sea

glass that was created is the product of a very long and interesting process. It can take anywhere from 10 to 30 years to make sea glass. The name for any piece of glass that finds its way to the ocean and tumbles around in the water long enough is "Sea glass.

The colorful pieces of glass are being used for decoration, handcrafts and jewelry!

Once glass makes its way into the ocean, the glass is broken up into shards and is tumbled around in the water, where sand and other rocks act like sandpaper to smooth out its rough edges. Sometimes as the sea glass is passed through fire, it becomes fire glass, the rarest of sea glass with certain inclusions, just like precious gems.

For years, the water beat against the different kinds of trash being dumped. Glass, household appliances and even motor

parts were discarded on the beach. The waves and weather conditions wore down the overwhelming amount of garbage in the water, creating millions of beautiful smooth rocks.

It's hard to believe the short-sighted mistakes we were making that could have potentially ruined these beautiful beaches. But thanks to natural processes, the ocean transformed the trash into the sea glass. Each colored gem on the beach has its own story.

The ruby red glass stones are typically from old car tail-lights.

Then, the sapphire rocks are the remnants of broken apothecary bottles. The most common and the easiest to find are the brown (Amstel & Polar beer), green (Heineken & Balashi beer) and clear glass which are the soft much loved "soft drink"

bottles.

If you like to see the sea glass for yourself, and be in awe of the power of nature, rent a car or jeep and go explore our deserted beaches on the north side of the island. Make it a fun family day! Even if we didn't mean to pollute the Beaches how we did, it is inspiring to see just how the earth can correct our mistakes.

Funny, how trash can change into treasures!

Everybody knows that you are not allowed to take local shells home, but the people working at the airport have no problem you taking sea glass home. A few of those pieces make great souvenirs. You can place them in a wine glass or large bottle for decoration and every time you look at it a smile will light up your face thinking back of your unforgettable Aruba vacation! □



Louise Rasmijn: the value of an exceptional cashier

ORANJESTAD – The ability of making rapid calculations while maintaining and giving attention, always with a smile. It can be said that Louise Rasmijn, 65, made sure to elevate being a cashier to a very high level. It's not for nothing that until now, despite being retired, she is still being asked to come back to work.

Many in Aruba and also abroad know Louise. She was a cashier for 39 years at Boolchand's. "In reality I worked for 38 years. For a time I stopped working, exactly one year I stayed home taking care of my child. But I couldn't find myself at home and I was called back, so I went back to work. And they considered it as me being on a long vacation", Rasmijn said with a laugh. What's more, for the Boolchand's family, Louise has been working with them for 40 years. "They thought that number was prettier."

But how does a person who always worked find themselves at home, something they didn't want to do when they were younger? The answer is her only granddaughter, Isabella. Louise was married at a very young age, and when she was 17 she went to the Netherlands where she got the opportunity of working in HEMA. "At HEMA I worked as a cashier and I loved the work a lot."

That experience helped her when she came back to Aruba, where at first she worked at La Modernista. "The place too sophisticated for a 'mondi' person like me", Louise told our reporter with a laugh. On top of it, she didn't feel like she could sell. Her talent was in managing the cash register. So she went to work at Palais Oriental, where she built a good relationship with the owner who taught her the trick of the trade. The human connec-



tion with the owner was something that came of itself, and continued after Louise was approached by the manager of Boolchand's and offered a job. "I said OK", and the rest is history.

The transition to the electronics store was relatively simple. Back then, the store was in the Main Street, across Palais Oriental. Louise experienced the entire development of the business and met a lot of customers in electronics.

Louise knows most photographers in Aruba who would find equipment with her and she enjoys the pictures that they take and share on Facebook. But she also met a lot of visitors. For example, a tourist couple who every day came to the store during their stay. On their last day in Aruba, the young woman offered Louise apologies for coming to the store every day. "My husband just wanted to see your smile", she told Louise. Another tourist, a Dutch person,

was observing interactions with different tourists, be it Brazilian, Venezuelan and American, and told Louise that he was fascinated by the way in which she switched from one language to the next.

And a customer who definitely left a lasting impression was the Wilders couple. The controversial Dutch politician was in Aruba on vacation and came to the store. He was accompanied not only by his wife but also bodyguards, because of continuous threats against his person. But the couple was very curious about Aruba and how Arubans deal with tourism, and so started chatting to the cashier. Even though some people knew of Wilders' expressions and might not even want to see him in the store, for Louise, it was simple. "He was a customer and you need to treat them well."

Louise would even receive tips from customers who were thankful for the service, but she didn't take the money. "I had a pot, 'client for client', that I would use if someone didn't have enough to buy something." Furthermore, she gave courses to cashiers of other stores to share her knowledge, knowledge that Louise developed herself during her career.

The reason why Louise considers Boolchand's as part of her family is because it is so, in her experience. "In the past, a business didn't hire someone if they already have family working. We were precisely the



opposite. If we recommend a person, right away they get the job." Her own child got the opportunity to get a vacation job and one of her nieces also. What's more, the owners wanted to convince the niece to stay at work because they appreciate the job she does. "This despite the fact that Saskia one day closed the door at 6pm and didn't let people waiting outside come in. And the person turned out to be the owner." Instead of getting angry, the owner found appreciation for the young girl, after speaking to her for a long time. She grew in the job and became management assistant.

What Louise Rasmijn considers important for people to realize is how her ex-bosses treat the personnel. Not everyone is aware that they made efforts for everyone. "A lot of people don't know how the Boolchand's family would make efforts for all of us. If it wasn't for my granddaughter I would still be working there."

Her granddaughter changed her life perspective, where now she can enjoy being at home and taking care of a child. "My mother looked after grandkids and great-grandchildren. My mother looked after my child, and now I look after my child's child. She can go to work without worrying because her child is with me."

And Louise enjoys every achievement of her granddaughter, who with barely two years of age already knows how to send WhatsApp, the proud grandmother tells. A granddaughter so used to her that to take her midday nap she needs to be on her grandmother's chest.

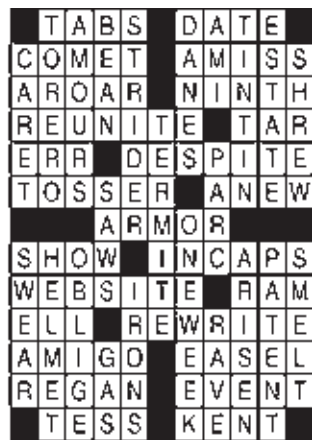
The same dedication she put into her work, now Louise puts into her grandchild. Does it make her happy? "Super." □



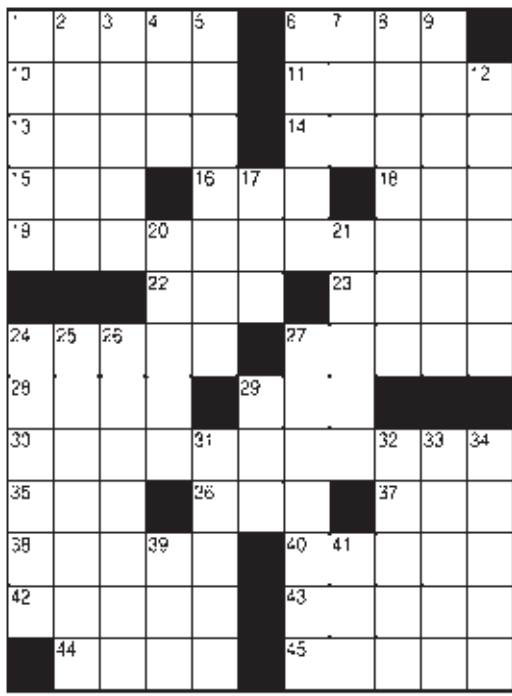
CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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- 43 Highly excited
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- 31 Strata
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- 34 Gasp, say
- 39 Stroller user
- 41 Penn of "Clarice"



Saturday's answer



AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-31

CRYPTOQUOTE

C L J Z K G K Z K X P K H J
Z J P R C X K R K X V Y G I S S F T A H C
W Y G ' H U G Y B B L J H P C D L H
L J R R K G H Y P Y X X Y B . — T K S J
S A D Y V C

Saturday's Cryptoquote: I SOMETIMES FEEL THAT I'M IMPERSONATING THE DARK UNCONSCIOUS OF THE WHOLE HUMAN RACE. — VINCENT PRICE

Millennial Money: 7 credit card moves to stretch your budget

By MELISSA LAMBARENA
of NerdWallet

As prices on goods and services soar, every bit of value squeezed from credit cards helps. Perhaps paying an annual fee became less appetizing. Maybe you scaled back expenses in certain categories a credit card once rewarded, or you're seeking opportunities to save with your credit cards. When you aren't focused on debt and are looking to make the most of your cards, consider these seven tips to free up money for other goals.

1. REQUEST A PRODUCT CHANGE

Ask your issuer if you can upgrade or downgrade your credit card when it no longer aligns with your spending habits. Downgrading to a different credit card is ideal to avoid an annual fee, while upgrading can provide more valuable perks or rewards. For rewards credit cards, ask whether existing points, miles or cash back will be affected before making the switch.

2. REALLOCATE YOUR CREDIT LIMIT

Some issuers allow you to reallocate a credit limit from one credit card to another within their product portfolio. Reasons why you might explore this option include:

Avoiding maxing out a frequently used credit card. Earning more rewards. Preserving credit before an account closure.

Qualifying for a new credit card with less risk to the issuer. Cindy Greenstein, a points and miles consultant and creator of the blog The Points Mom, has tapped



In this Jan. 31, 2018, photo, an assortment of credit cards and rewards cards are shown in Zelienople, Pa.

Associated Press

this option to increase her likelihood of approval for a new card with the same issuer, but she says it doesn't work with every bank.

"Call a special reallocation line and say to them that you only want the card and the bonus," the New York resident says. "It usually makes them feel better to know that they don't have to extend you more credit."

3. SEEK A RETENTION BONUS

When you're on the fence about keeping a once-valuable credit card, ask the issuer whether it can offer any incentive to help you decide.

As a loyal customer with a good track record, you might get a retention bonus that grants rewards in exchange for meeting a minimum spending requirement. Offers may vary depending on the issuer, and there's no guarantee you'll get one, but it's worth trying.

Greenstein and her husband recently accepted two retention offers totaling about 70,000 points on credit cards with high annual fees.

She estimates the offers

added up to a minimum value of \$700.

"You have to figure out if it's worth it, based on what they offer, for you to keep it," Greenstein says.

4. MEET BONUS REQUIREMENTS WITH GIFT CARDS

When chasing a credit card bonus, don't overspend to earn it. If your budgeted purchases aren't enough to meet the bonus spending requirements within the designated time frame, consider using the credit card to buy gift cards you can use later.

You could buy a gift card to a grocery store, a restaurant delivery app or an often-frequented retailer. Just don't overdo it because some issuers have rules against abuse.

5. NEGOTIATE A LOWER APR

If your account is in good standing, try negotiating a lower annual percentage rate with your credit card issuer. Your creditworthiness factors into the interest rate, but an issuer may be willing to go lower.

Delia Fernandez, a certified financial planner who owns Fernandez Financial Advisory LLC, a California-based firm, suggests searching for competing offers at a different bank or credit union and presenting them to your credit card issuer to get a lower interest rate.

This option may also be ideal if you have plans to finance a large purchase and don't want to open a credit card with a 0% introductory APR. □

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24/7

Alaska-Australia flight could place bird in record books

By **ROD McGUIRK**

Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)

— A young bar-tailed godwit appears to have set a non-stop distance record for migratory birds by flying at least 13,560 kilometers (8,435 miles) from Alaska to the Australian state of Tasmania, a bird expert said Friday. The bird was tagged as a hatchling in Alaska during the Northern Hemisphere summer with a tracking GPS chip and tiny solar panel that enabled an international research team to follow its first annual migration across the Pacific Ocean, BirdLife Tasmania convenor Eric Woehler said. Because the bird was so young, its gender wasn't known.

Aged about five months, it left southwest Alaska at the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta on Oct. 13 and touched down 11 days later at Ansons Bay on the island of Tasmania's northeastern tip on Oct. 24, according to data from Germany's Max Planck Institute for Ornithology. The research has yet to be published or peer reviewed.

The bird started on a southwestern course toward Japan then turned southeast over Alaska's Aleutian Islands, a map published by New Zealand's Pūkoro Miramira Shorebird Centre shows. The bird was again tracking southwest when it flew over or near Kiribati



Bar-tailed godwits stand on the beach at Marion Bay in Australia's Tasmania state on Feb. 17, 2018.

Associated Press

and New Caledonia, then past the Australian mainland before turning directly west for Tasmania, Australia's most southerly state. The satellite trail showed it covered 13,560 kilometers (8,435 miles) without stopping. "Whether this is an accident, whether this bird got lost or whether this is part of a normal pattern of migration for the species, we still don't know," said Woehler, who is part of the research project.

Guinness World Records lists the longest recorded migration by a bird without stopping for food or rest as 12,200 kilometers (7,580 miles) by a satellite-tagged male bar-tailed godwit flying from Alaska to New Zealand.

That flight was recorded in 2020 as part of the same decade-old research project, which also involves China's Fudan University, New Zealand's Massey Uni-

versity and the Global Flyway Network.

The same bird broke its own record with a 13,000-kilometer (8,100-mile) flight on its next migration last year, researchers say. But Guinness has yet to acknowledge that feat.

Woehler said researchers did not know whether the latest bird, known by its satellite tag 234684, flew alone or as part of a flock. "There are so few birds that have been tagged, we don't know how representative or otherwise this event is," Woehler said.

"It may be that half the birds that do the migration from Alaska come to Tasmania directly rather than through New Zealand or it might be 1%, or it might be

that this is the first it's ever happened," he added.

Adult birds depart Alaska earlier than juveniles, so the tagged bird was unlikely to have followed more experienced travelers south, Woehler said.

Woehler hopes to see the bird once wet weather clears in the remote corner of Tasmania, where it will fatten up having lost half its body weight on its journey. □



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**ARUBA
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Editor
Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Assistant Director

Xiomara Arends

Editors

Pilar Flores

Richard Brooks

Angenette Figueroa

Sales

Mark Gomes

Sulaika Croes

Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22

T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com

W: www.arubatoday.com

@arubatoday



US sanctions Iranian group that put bounty on Rushdie's life

By Fatima Hussein

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. is imposing financial penalties on an Iranian-based organization that raised money to target British-American author Salman Rushdie, who was violently attacked in August at a literary event.

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control sanctioned the 15 Khordad Foundation, which issued a multimillion-dollar bounty for the killing of Rushdie. He wrote "The Satanic Verses," which some Muslims consider blasphemous.

American officials say as recently as 2012, the 15 Khordad Foundation raised its bounty to \$3.3 million, claiming the full sum would be given to anyone who assassinated Rushdie. Sanctions records show the organization was created in 1979.

Rushdie's agent says the author has lost sight in one eye and the use of a hand as he recovers from an attack by a man who rushed the stage at the event in



Author Salman Rushdie appears during the Mississippi Book Festival in Jackson, Miss., on Aug. 18, 2018. The U.S. is imposing financial penalties on an Iranian-based organization that raised money to target British-American author Rushdie, who was violently attacked at an August literary event. (AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis, File)

western New York.

An Associated Press reporter witnessed the attacker confront Rushdie on stage at the Chautauqua Institution and stab or punch him 10 to 15 times as he was being introduced. The author was pushed or fell to the floor, and the man was ar-

rested.

Secretary of State Antony Blinken said the organization is also being designated for diplomatic penalties for "providing financial support for an act of terrorism." He said the U.S. condemns the attack on Rushdie "in the strongest terms as a

blatant assault on freedom of speech and an act of terrorism."

The sanctions and designations deny the group access to any property or financial assets held in the U.S., and the ability to travel to the U.S.

"The United States will not

waver in its determination to stand up to threats posed by Iranian authorities against the universal rights of freedom of expression, freedom of religion or belief, and freedom of the press," said Brian Nelson, Treasury's under secretary for terrorism and financial intelligence. "This act of violence, which has been praised by the Iranian regime, is appalling. We all hope for Salman Rushdie's speedy recovery following the attack on his life."

The U.S. has hit Iran's government with a host of sanctions this year for a variety of actions related to human rights abuses.

Financial penalties were imposed on Iran's government after the death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini in September.

She was detained by the morality police, who said she didn't properly cover her hair with the mandatory Islamic headscarf, known as the hijab. Amini collapsed at a police station and died three days later. □

'Black Adam' takes top spot at box office again

By Lindsey Bahr

Associated Press

(AP) - "Black Adam," the Dwayne Johnson-fronted DC superhero film, kept its hold on the No. 1 spot at the North American box office in its second weekend in theaters. Down 59% from its launch, and facing little new competition, "Black Adam" added \$27.7 million in ticket sales, bringing its domestic total to \$111.1 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

Johnson spent a decade trying to bring the character to the big screen and has visions for follow-ups involving Superman. But the future of "Black Adam" is not written quite yet, though it's earned \$250 million worldwide. The Warner Bros. film carried a hefty price tag of \$200 million, not including marketing and promo-

tion costs, and a sequel has not been officially greenlit. But big changes are afoot at DC the studio just announced a new leadership team of Peter Safran and James Gunn, whose love for propping up little-known comic book characters is well-documented. And on Sunday, Johnson posted a note to his 344 million Instagram followers about the end of the world press tour, thanking those who worked behind the scenes to launch "our NEW DC FRANCHISE known as BLACK ADAM."

Bucking recent romantic comedy trends, moviegoers remained curious about "Ticket to Paradise," Universal's Julia Roberts and George Clooney destination romp, which fell only 37% in weekend two to claim second place. The

genre has not been the most reliable bet at the box office lately, with films like "Bros" stumbling in theaters, but the star power of Roberts and Clooney is proving hard to resist. "Ticket to Paradise" added \$10 million from 3,692 North American theaters, bringing its domestic total to \$33.7 million. Globally, it's grossed \$119.4 million to date. Horror movies, meanwhile, claimed spots three through five on the weekend before Halloween on Monday. Lionsgate's "Prey for the Devil" opened in third place with \$7 million from 2,980 theaters. Notably, it is the only of the three horror films that carried a PG-13 rating. The others were R-rated.

Paramount's "Smile" took fourth place in its fifth weekend with another \$5.1 million, bringing its domes-



This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Dwayne Johnson in a scene from "Black Adam." (Warner Bros. Pictures via AP)

tic total to \$92.4 million (on a \$17 million budget), while "Halloween Ends" landed in fifth place in its third weekend with \$3.8 million. "Ends," which has grossed \$60.3 million in North America, was released simultaneously on NBC Universal's streaming service Peacock. "This is just another mandate in favor of horror," said Paul Dergarabedian, Comscore's senior media analyst. "It's not just about being in October, horror movies have played well

throughout the pandemic. It's a genre that continues to kill it at the box office time and again."

This weekend also saw the expansion of several notable films, like Todd Field's "Tár," which expanded to 1,087 theaters nationwide where it grossed \$1 million and landed in 10th place. Cate Blanchett's performance as a renowned composer and conductor won her a top acting prize from the Venice Film Festival last month. □

Kings outlast Heat 119-113, win first game of Mike Brown era

By Cameran Salerno

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)

— Kevin Huerter scored 27 points, hitting seven 3-pointers, to help the Sacramento Kings win for the first time this season with a 119-113 victory over the Miami Heat on Saturday.

It's the first victory for Kings coach Mike Brown, who was hired this past offseason. The Los Angeles Lakers are the last winless team in the NBA. "It was (about) trying to get a win," Brown said. "Doesn't matter when it comes. ... hopefully we can have some carryover going on this road trip."

Kings rookie Keegan Murray scored a career-best 22 points.

"I think we played well," Murray said. "We expect to win games."

With the Kings up four points, Huerter was fouled with 14.2 seconds left. He made both free throws to extend Sacramento's lead to six and seal the win.

De'Aaron Fox had scored 27 points or more during the Kings' first four games of the season. He finished with 17 points and added 13 rebounds, a career-high.

Domantas Sabonis picked up two early fouls in the third quarter and sat with five fouls until the early fourth. Sabonis finished with 18 points and seven rebounds in 22 minutes. He fouled out with 5:52 left.

Harrison Barnes scored 11 points. All five Sacramento starters scored in double-figures.

"Nobody knows how hard those guys work," Brown said. "Watching these guys work every day and seeing their togetherness, you feel that we're going to have a real shot at this thing."

Tyler Herro led the Heat (2-5) with 34 points and knocked down five 3-pointers. Bam Adebayo added 23 points and Kyle Lowry had 15.

Jimmy Butler scored 13 points, his lowest scoring output of the season.

After Sacramento went up 42-33 with 7:28 in the second quarter, they ended

the first half on a 29-13 run to stretch the lead to 22 at the break.

"That's been a little bit of a trend, our starts defensively," Miami Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "They came in with desperation. They wanted to get that first win."

The Heat outscored Sacramento 33-19 in the third, which cut the Sacramento lead to six. Miami cut the lead to as close as one after a Herro And-1.

"It's not rocket science to us," Spoelstra said. "... we are going to improve. We are not that far away."

For the first time in an NBA regular season game, Malik Monk, Fox and Adebayo shared the court together. □



Sacramento Kings guard Kevin Huerter (9) guards Miami Heat guard Tyler Herro (14) during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Sacramento, Calif., Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022.

(AP Photo/Randall Benton)

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Astros burst ahead, beat Phillies 5-2, tie World Series 1-1



Houston Astros starting pitcher Framber Valdez celebrates a double play to end the top of the sixth inning in Game 2 of baseball's World Series between the Houston Astros and the Philadelphia Phillies on Saturday, Oct. 29, 2022, in Houston.

(AP Photo/David J. Phillip)

By Ronald Blum
Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Framber Valdez swapped his glove and his spikes midgame. He repeatedly rubbed his hands.

By the time he strode off the mound to a standing ovation and handed the Houston Astros' bullpen a seventh-inning lead, it was clear he had thrown a curve at the Philadelphia Phillies.

"This was a really good game for the fans, a really good game for our team and also for me," he said through a translator after pitching the Astros over the Phillies 5-2 Saturday night to tie the World Series at one game apiece. "I've just been playing really inspired."

Valdez made a five-run lead stand up after Houston's lightning first-inning burst and Alex Bregman homered as the Astros rushed to a 5-0 lead for the second straight night. Unlike ace Justin Verlander in the opener, Valdez and Houston held on.

"His curveball was on tonight," Phillies star Bryce

Harper said after going 0 for 4. "It was big, sharp."

Houston became the first team to open a Series game with three straight extra-base hits, and Valdez pitched shutout ball into the seventh, rebounding from a pair of poor outings against Atlanta last year that had left him with a 19.29 Series ERA.

He threw 42 curveballs among 104 pitches and got six of nine strikeouts with that pitch, three of them looking. He allowed four hits and one run in 6 2/3 innings, giving up a leadoff double in the seventh to Nick Castellanos, who scored on Jean Segura's sacrifice fly off Rafael Montero.

"Nobody should think of it as anything like in the wrong way. I do it out in the open," he said. "It's all tendencies I do. I do it throughout the game, maybe distract the hitter a little bit from what I'm doing. Like maybe look at me, rubbing different things, and nothing about the pitch that I'm going to throw. I've been doing it all season."

Valdez started the game

with a tan glove and spikes with orange and yellow trim, then swapped ahead of the second inning for a dark glove and dark cleats with a white stripe.

"Normally have different spikes when I warm up and the ones that I go into the game. Today I decided to start the game with the ones I warmed up in," he said. "I had a long inning there and I was like, You know what, I'm going to change everything. I'm going to change my glove, my belt, my cleats. And those are just things that us Dominicans do, just some tendencies here and there."

When the Phillies put two runners on for the only time against him in the sixth, Valdez struck out Game 1 star J.T. Realmuto with high heat, then got Harper to bounce a first-pitch sinker into an inning-ending double play.

Phillies manager Rob Thomson didn't take issue with Valdez rubbing his palm — social media was abuzz, wondering if there was some banned sticky substance.

"The umpires check these guys after almost every inning and if there's something going on MLB will take care of it," Thomson said. "We saw it the last time he started, too."

Jose Altuve, Jeremy Peña and Yordan Alvarez all doubled as Houston took a two-run lead four pitches in against Zack Wheeler. Shortstop Edmundo Sosa's throwing error allowed another run in the first.

Bregman added a two-run homer in the fifth when Wheeler left a slider over the middle of the plate, Bregman's sixth career Series homer. □

Big 12 agrees to 6-year extension with ESPN, Fox



Incoming Big 12 Commissioner Brett Yormark speaks during a news conference opening the conference's football media days in Arlington, Texas, July 13, 2022.

(AP Photo/LM Otero, File)

Associated Press
By Ralph D. russo
(AP) - The Big 12 has

reached an agreement on a six-year contract extension with ESPN and Fox worth more than \$2 billion that will keep the conference's media rights with those networks through the 2030-31 college sports seasons, according to people familiar with the deal.

Two people confirmed details of the new media rights deal to The Associated Press on Sunday, speaking on condition of anonymity because contracts have yet to be finalized and no official announcement was expected soon.

Sports Business Journal was the first to report the deal would be worth \$380 million annually. The Big 12 still has two years left on its current deals with Fox and ESPN.

New Big 12 Commissioner Brett Yormark announced in August he was engaging the networks in discussions about an extension and just a few weeks ago

said a new deal could be done soon.

The television deal provides stability to a league that a little more than a year ago seemed to be in danger of falling apart. Oklahoma and Texas announced in the summer of 2021 that they intended to leave the Big 12 for the Southeastern Conference at the end of the current TV deal, which expires in 2025.

Former Big 12 Commissioner Bob Bowlsby and the conference moved quickly to add Houston, Cincinnati, Central Florida and BYU. Those four will join next year, giving the Big 12 14 teams for at least one season.

It would cost tens of millions of dollars for Texas and Oklahoma to break current contracts leave the conference early.

Without the Longhorns and Sooners, there were concerns about how much networks would value the Big 12. The final two years of the current deal pays \$220 million annually.